



2005 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 28

June 14, 2005 – Introduced by Senators A. LASEE, HARSDORF, KAPANKE and COWLES, cosponsored by Representatives OTT, HAHN, FREESE, MONTGOMERY and GRONEMUS. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming an annual Renewable Energy Awareness Week (the week
2 of the summer solstice) and an annual Renewable Energy Awareness Day (June
3 21).

4 Whereas, nationally, the cost of energy is constantly increasing, our energy
5 needs are growing faster than our domestic sources are able to provide, demand for
6 electricity has grown more than 17 percent in the past decade, and we continue to
7 import more than one-half of our domestic oil supply; and

8 Whereas, over the past 3 years, America’s energy consumption has increased
9 by roughly 4 percent, while domestic energy production has decreased by roughly 1
10 percent; and

11 Whereas, increasingly, our energy supply is coming from other countries; and

12 Whereas, to meet our energy needs and strengthen our national security, we
13 must become less dependent on foreign oil; and

14 Whereas, our nation’s present level of dependence on foreign sources of energy
15 negatively impacts the nation’s trade balance; and

1 Whereas, development of renewable energy sources has a positive effect on our
2 nation’s balance of trade; and

3 Whereas, the President’s agenda includes an energy bill which targets four
4 important objectives, namely encouraging the use of technology to improve
5 conservation, encouraging more production at home in environmentally sensitive
6 ways, diversifying our energy supply by developing alternative sources of energy,
7 and finding better, more reliable ways to deliver energy to consumers; and

8 Whereas, in Wisconsin, sun, wind, water, and forests are plentiful and can be
9 harnessed to supply energy; and

10 Whereas, Wisconsin is recognized as a leading state for its protection of our
11 nation’s precious natural resources; and

12 Whereas, in Wisconsin, 16 million acres out of 32 million acres are covered with
13 woodland; and

14 Whereas, wood and switchgrass are renewable resources and can be used for
15 fuel and energy; and

16 Whereas, harvesting wood for fuel and energy will help Wisconsin landowners
17 achieve sustainable forestry goals; and

18 Whereas, technology to convert farm waste, also in plentiful supply in
19 Wisconsin, into energy is being developed; and

20 Whereas, Wisconsin’s vast farmlands can grow crops, such as soybeans, which
21 can be converted into biodiesel to fuel our nation’s vehicles; and

22 Whereas, our current dependence upon petroleum cannot continue indefinitely,
23 because oil is not a limitless supply, and therefore we must develop renewable
24 sources of energy to provide an energy-secure future for generations to come; and

1 Whereas, ethanol, biodiesel, biomass, biogas, solar, geothermal, and
2 photovoltaic are all natural renewable resources important to Wisconsin and its
3 future; now, therefore, be it

4 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the legislature
5 encourages the diversification of our energy supply through the development of
6 alternative sources of energy; and, be it further

7 ***Resolved, That*** the week of the summer solstice each year be designated as
8 Renewable Energy Week and June 21 (the summer solstice) each year be designated
9 as Renewable Energy Day.

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(END)